

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 134234

CODEL ROSTENKOWSKI. FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ARMITAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (ROSTENKOWSKI, DAN), PFOR, PINT, PL

SUBJECT: CODEL ROSTENKOWSKI

1. PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF CONGRESSMAN ROSTENKOWSKI'S HEAVY COMMITMENTS IN CHICAGO MAYORAL CAMPAIGN, HE HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO RECEIVE ME FOR A FULL BRIEFING BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. I DID GET THROUGH TO ROSTENKOWSKI ON PHONE THURSDAY EVENING JUST BEFORE HE LEFT FOR AIRPORT. I DID NOT HAVE TIME TO GO INTO CURRENT INTERNAL SITUATION IN POLAND BUT I STRONGLY EMPHASIZED NEED FOR CONGRESSMAN TO REFLECT WITH POLISH LEADERS CONTINUING USG CONCERN THAT POLES HAVE NOT BEEN MORE RESPONSIVE TO OUR REQUESTS FOR ACTION ON DIVIDED FAMILY CASES. I BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, THAT YOU PROVIDE ROSTENKOWSKI THE FULL BRIEFING WE WERE NOT ABLE TO GIVE HIM AT THIS END.

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2. I ALSO ASKED ROSTENKOWSKI TO CONVEY TO POLES THE SENSE OF (A) THE VALUE PLACED BY FRIENDS OF POLAND IN CONGRESS ON RESTRAINT WHICH POLISH LEADERSHIP HAS SHOWN IN THE YEAR SINCE PRICE-RISE RIOTS IN DEALING WITH ITS CRITICS AND (B) THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO U.S.-POLISH RELATIONS IF THIS PERCEPTION ON THE HILL WERE TO CHANGE AND IF REPRESSION IN POLAND WERE TO BECOME ISSUE REQUIRING OFFICIAL USG STATE-

MENT. I THINK ROSTENKOWSKI TOOK THE POINT, BUT I WOULD

WELCOME YOUR REINFORCING WITH THE CONGRESSMAN IMPORTANCE
OF HIS TAKING THIS MATTER UP WITH APPROPRIATE POLISH LEADER/
LEADERS.

3. COMMERCE WAS NOT ABLE TO HAVE A BRIEFING SESSION WITH
CONGRESSMAN BUT HAS PROVIDED HEALEY WITH BRIEFING BOOK
COVERING RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN U.S.-POLISH TRADE AND
ECONOMIC RELATIONS. (WE LEARNED OF EXISTENCE OF BRIEFING
BOOK ONLY AFTER IT HAD BEEN DELIVERED AND STILL HAVE NOT
SEEN COPY.) VANCE

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